

Vulcan Materials CO
Form 425
March 16, 2012

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SUBJECT COMPANY: VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY

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[Communication to Vulcan Materials Company Employees]

Organizational Announcement -Profit Enhancement Plan

March 16, 2012

As a part of our fourth quarter and year-end earnings news release, we announced our Profit Enhancement Plan. By implementing the Plan, we anticipate improving our EBITDA at current volumes by at least \$100 million on an annual run rate.

Mark Smith Vice President, Operations Support and Jeff McCormick Vice President, Finance have been appointed to co-lead the implementation of the Profit Enhancement Plan, and have appointed team leaders for the six functional areas that will be the focus of the Plan. The organization structure is attached.

The Profit Enhancement Plan will further strengthen our Company. We will standardize and streamline business processes, evaluate opportunities to eliminate unneeded work, reduce demand for key inputs, and improve supplier pricing. Important components of the Plan have been in the planning phase for some time and build on the foundation of our ERP project, which continues to enable new opportunities for better business performance.

Our Company has downsized dramatically since the onset of the recession in 2008. The most recent restructuring and accompanying reductions during 2011 were important but difficult steps toward building a stronger Company. The Profit Enhancement Plan also builds on our restructuring and positions us to remain the leader in our industry.

Most important in this process are the actions of our people. Our Profit Enhancement Leadership Team is moving ahead rapidly to achieve if not surpass our EBITDA targets and each Region, department and employee will have a role to play as we meet our goals. All hands are on deck as we work to reach our goal of at least \$100 million in run rate savings over the next 18 months, with \$25 million expected in profit enhancements this year.

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We plan to provide regular, Company-wide communications about our progress with the Profit Enhancement Plan, including an update for all employees within three weeks. In the meantime, thank you for your help in supporting Mark, Jeff and the functional team leaders in our collective effort to build an ever-stronger Company.

Dan Sansone
Executive VP & Chief Financial Officer

Danny Shepherd
Executive VP - Construction Materials

Wayne Houston

John McPherson

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Senior VP, Human Resources

Senior VP, Strategy and Business Development

Bob Wason
Senior VP& General Counsel

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain matters discussed in this communication, including expectations regarding future performance, contain forward-looking statements. Statements that are not historical fact, including statements about Vulcan's beliefs and expectations, are forward-looking statements. Generally, these statements relate to future financial performance, results of operations, business plans or strategies, projected or anticipated revenues, expenses, earnings (including EBITDA and other measures), dividend policy, shipment volumes, pricing, levels of capital expenditures, intended cost reductions and cost savings, anticipated profit improvements and/or planned divestitures and asset sales. These forward-looking statements are sometimes identified by the use of terms and phrases such as believe, should, would, expect, project, estimate, anticipate, intend, can, may or similar expressions elsewhere in this document. These statements are subject to numerous risks, uncertainties, and assumptions, including but not limited to general business conditions, competitive factors, pricing, energy costs, and other risks and uncertainties discussed in the reports Vulcan periodically files with the SEC.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results, developments, and business decisions may vary significantly from those expressed in or implied by the forward-looking statements. The following risks related to Vulcan's business, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements: risks that Vulcan's intentions, plans and results with respect to cost reductions, profit enhancements and asset sales, as well as streamlining and other strategic actions adopted by Vulcan, will not be able to be realized to the desired degree or within the desired time period and that the results thereof will differ from those anticipated or desired; uncertainties as to the timing and valuations that may be realized or attainable with respect to intended asset sales; future events relating to Martin Marietta's unsolicited offer to acquire Vulcan; those associated with general economic and business conditions; the timing and amount of federal, state and local funding for infrastructure; the lack of a multi-year federal highway funding bill with an automatic funding mechanism; the reluctance of state departments of transportation to undertake federal highway projects without a reliable method of federal funding; the impact of a prolonged economic recession on Vulcan's industry, business and financial condition and access to capital markets; changes in the level of spending for private residential and nonresidential construction; the highly competitive nature of the construction materials industry; the impact of future regulatory or legislative actions; the outcome of pending legal proceedings; pricing of Vulcan's products; incurred and potential costs associated with Martin Marietta's unsolicited takeover attempt and proxy contest; weather and other natural phenomena; energy costs; costs of hydrocarbon-based raw materials; healthcare costs; the amount of long-term debt and interest expense incurred by Vulcan; changes in interest rates; the impact of Vulcan's below investment grade debt rating on Vulcan's cost of capital; volatility in pension plan asset values which may require cash contributions to the pension plans; the impact of environmental clean-up costs and other liabilities relating to previously divested businesses; Vulcan's ability to secure and permit aggregates reserves in strategically located areas; Vulcan's ability to manage and successfully integrate acquisitions; the potential of goodwill impairment; the potential impact of future legislation or regulations relating to climate change or greenhouse gas emissions or the definition of minerals; and other assumptions, risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in the reports filed by Vulcan with the SEC. All forward-looking statements in this communication are qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. Vulcan disclaims and does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement in this document except as required by law. Vulcan notes that forward-looking statements made in connection with a tender offer are not subject to the safe harbors created by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Vulcan is not waiving any other defenses that may be available under applicable law.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This communication does not constitute an offer to buy or solicitation of an offer to sell any securities or a solicitation of any vote, consent or approval. In response to the unsolicited exchange offer commenced by Martin Marietta Materials, Inc., a North Carolina corporation (Martin Marietta), Vulcan Materials Company (Vulcan) has filed a Solicitation/Recommendation statement on Schedule 14D-9 with the U.S. Securities and

Exchange Commission (SEC). INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS OF VULCAN ARE URGED TO READ THE SOLICITATION / RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY IN THEIR ENTIRETY BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. Investors and security holders may obtain free copies of these documents and other documents filed with the SEC by Vulcan through the website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement, any amendments and supplements to the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement and other Vulcan materials related to Martin Marietta 's unsolicited offer will also be available for free under the Investor Relations tab of Vulcan 's corporate website <http://www.vulcanmaterials.com>.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS

Vulcan intends to file a proxy statement with the SEC with respect to the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Any definitive proxy statement will be mailed to stockholders of Vulcan. Vulcan, its directors and certain of its executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from Vulcan shareholders in connection with the matters to be considered at the annual meeting. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS OF VULCAN ARE URGED TO READ ANY SUCH PROXY STATEMENT, ACCOMPANYING PROXY CARD AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY IN THEIR ENTIRETY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. Investors and security holders will be able to obtain free copies of these documents (when available) and other documents filed with the SEC by Vulcan through the website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Detailed information regarding the identity of potential participants, and their direct or indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, will be set forth in the proxy statement and other materials to be filed with the SEC in connection with Vulcan 's 2012 Annual Meeting. Information regarding the direct and indirect beneficial ownership of Vulcan 's directors and executive officers in Vulcan 's securities is included in their SEC filings on Forms 3, 4 and 5, and additional information can also be found in Vulcan 's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on February 29, 2012, and its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the first three quarters of the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011, filed on May 6, 2011, August 4, 2011 and November 4, 2011, respectively. Relevant information concerning such participants and their potential interests is also contained in the Solicitation/Recommendation on Schedule 14D-9. Shareholders will be able to obtain any proxy statement, any amendments or supplements to the proxy statement and other documents filed by Vulcan with the SEC for no charge at the SEC 's website at www.sec.gov. Copies will also be available at no charge under the Investor Relations tab of our corporate website at www.vulcanmaterials.com.
